

Google to join fight against online terror

WEB giant Google has vowed to crack down on terrorist websites as Foreign Secretary Boris Johnson rallies the EU today in the fight against “online evil”.

Google’s senior vice president Kent Walker said yesterday the company would work with other firms, including Facebook, Microsoft and Twitter, to “accelerate our joint efforts to tackle terrorism online”.

He said they would hire more experts and increase their use of technology to spot extremist and terrorism-related videos.

Mr Walker also pledged “a tougher stance” on videos with inflammatory religious or supremacist content. In future the videos will appear with a warning and will not be recommended or eligible for comments or user endorsements or earn revenue.

YouTube will also target potential Islamic State recruits and redirect them towards anti-terrorist videos to help change their minds about joining.

Mr Walker, writing for the Financial Times website, said: “Extremists and terrorists seek to attack and erode our security and values. We must not let them.”

At a meeting of EU foreign ministers in Luxembourg today, Mr Johnson will seek support for greater collaboration between tech firms and governments to deny IS terrorists the use of the web to radicalise the vulnerable or plot attacks. He said: “We need a common approach to ensure the problem gets solved.”

By John Ingham



Boris Johnson in EU talks

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‘We want in a deal

FROM PAGE ONE

for the country. The Brexit Secretary and some of Whitehall’s top civil servants will sit down opposite the EU’s chief negotiator Michel Barnier and create a deal “like no other in history”.

At the meeting Mr Davis will say: “Today marks the start of negotiations that will shape the future of the European Union and the United Kingdom, and the lives of our citizens.

“We want both sides to emerge strong and prosperous, capable of projecting our shared European values, leading in the world, and demonstrating our resolve to protect the security of our citizens.

“I want to reiterate at the outset of these talks that the UK will remain a committed partner and ally of our friends across the Continent.

“And while there is a long road ahead, our destination is clear – a deep and special partnership between the UK and the EU. A deal like no other in history. I look forward to beginning work on that new future today.”

Decided

Over the weekend, Mr Davis had also sought to dash European hopes that Brexit can be cancelled, saying: “There should be no doubt. We are leaving the EU and delivering on that historic referendum result.”

Today’s talks are due to last just one day. They are likely to focus on how the negotiation process will be structured.

Britain has insisted that talks about trade and the actual terms of the divorce must run in parallel. It argues that the withdrawal process cannot be decided without taking future relations into account.

But in recent days Mr Davis has appeared more accepting of the EU’s demand to make progress on Britain’s “divorce bill”, European citizens’ rights and the Irish border before considering future links.

Britain has long said that it wants to settle the post-Brexit rights of EU nationals already living in the UK as soon as possible, provided British expats get similar guarantees. Mrs



Hammond backing Brexit yesterday



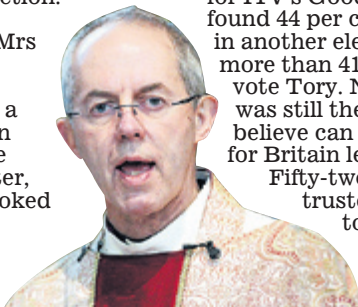
Liam Fox starts trade talks with the US

May finds ‘comfort’ from prayers with archbishop

VICAR’S daughter Theresa May has sought extra spiritual solace in private prayer sessions with the Archbishop of Canterbury, it has emerged.

The Prime Minister is said to have found “great comfort” in her meetings with the Most Rev Justin Welby – Lambeth Palace is just a few minutes from Downing Street – but they were not believed to have met since the General Election.

Yesterday, despite growing pressure on Mrs May after the Tories’ performance in the General Election and a hostile public reaction to her response to the Grenfell Tower disaster, the Prime Minister looked



Most Rev Justin Welby prays with Mrs May

both sides to be strong like no other in history’

Pictures: ANDREW PARSONS / I-IMAGES



Theresa May and husband Philip attend church yesterday

election made clear voters wanted a Brexit that was “generous, works for citizens, whether in the UK or the EU, and above all make sure you get on with it and get the job done.

“I believe people want an open Brexit, and a vision for Britain as a great global trading nation – and that’s what we are going to deliver.”

International Trade Secretary Liam Fox, who today starts talks in Washington on boosting Anglo-American trade, said his department was already working to build the platform for thriving new trade links. Chancellor Philip Hammond

– seen as one of the Cabinet’s most pro-Remain members – yesterday confounded Eurosceptics’ expectations by making clear he would not fight for Britain to remain in a customs union which would stop Britain striking its own trade deals.

But he made it clear he wants the greatest possible market access for business and the smoothest transition, with no damaging “cliff edge” shock to the economy.

He also backed Mrs May’s insistence that “no deal will be better than a bad deal” although he warned leaving the EU without an agree-

ment would be “very, very bad”. He added: “What we put in place may not be a single arrangement that endures forever. It may be an arrangement which lasts for a couple of years as a temporary measure before we get to the long-term agreed status quo.

“We’re leaving the EU and because we are leaving the EU, we will be leaving the single market and, by the way, we will be leaving the customs union. The question is what do we put in its place.”

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Tory ministers refuse to be drawn on PM’s future

SENIOR Cabinet ministers yesterday refused to be drawn on how long Theresa May can cling to office.

Chancellor Philip Hammond and House of Commons Leader Andrea Leadsom both dodged the question amid speculation the Prime Minister has only days to save her job.

Reports yesterday claimed Tory MPs including ministers were ready to oust her by the end of the month if she looked like losing Commons votes on June 28 and 29 on her Queen’s Speech agenda.

Mrs May is struggling with the aftermath of humiliatingly losing her Commons majority in the General Election she called to strengthen her hand.

A deal is still awaited with Northern Ireland’s Democratic Unionist Party under which its 10 MPs would prop up the minority Tory administration in key votes, while Mrs May has also suffered criticism for her public response to the Grenfell Tower tragedy.

Some Tory grassroots activists are pressing MPs to act against her. One unnamed minister told friends that she must “shape up or ship out”.

Pinning Mrs May’s future as Prime Minister to her showing she can get her legislative agenda through the Commons at the end of this month means she has as little as 10 days to fend off pressure to quit.

“The critical moment is June 28 and 29 when there are votes on the Queen’s Speech.

“If it looks like they will be lost, you have to strike,” said one former minister.

Mrs May must now put on strong performances in the Commons and at Thursday’s Brussels summit with EU leaders, as well as turbo-charging her Government’s response to the Grenfell Tower disaster.

Asked how long Mrs May had left in No 10, Mr Hammond told the BBC’s Andrew Marr: “Theresa is leading the Government and I think the Government needs to get on with its job – and I think that’s what most people will think, that the Government just needs to get on with the day job of government.”

Grilled by ITV’s Robert Peston about whether Mrs May would “survive” in office, Mr Hammond said that she was “focused” on dealing with the Grenfell Tower tragedy. He also spoke with candour about the Conservative election campaign in which he had no frontline role.

He admitted: “I would have liked to have highlighted our economic record and I think if we had focused on that, we probably would have done better in the election than we did.”

Commons Leader Mrs Leadsom – who briefly fought Mrs May for the Tory leadership last summer – told the BBC’s Sunday Politics: “I’m absolutely supportive of the Prime Minister.”

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